

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CHULA VISTA SAFETY COMMISSION**

**August 9, 2007  
6:00 p.m.**

**Community Room  
Chula Vista Police Department Headquarters**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**1. Roll Call:**

Present: Chair Perrett; Vice-Chair Liken; Commissioners Lopez, Moriarty, Rosario and Cochrane

Absent: Commissioner Navarro (unexcused)

Also present: Senior Civil Engineer, Jim Newton  
Officer Ryan Mullen  
Recording Secretary, Lindsey Walters

Recording Secretary Walters informed Chair Perrett that Commissioner Navarro did not contact her in advance of the meeting to inform the Commission of his absence.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance/Silent Prayer**

**3. Opening Statement**

Opening statement read by Chair Perrett.

**4. Approval of Minutes: June 14, 2007**

**MSC (Liken/Rosario)** to approve the minutes from the August 9, 2007 Safety Commission Meeting. (5-0-1-1). Perrett abstains; Navarro absent.

**5. Safety Commission Attendance Report**

Accepted by Safety Commission.

**6. Oral Communications**

None.

**MEETING AGENDA**

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**7. Report on Traffic Safety Improvements at the All-Way Stop Controlled Intersection of Lane Avenue and Mackenzie Creek Road**

Brief presentation given by Senior Civil Engineer Newton. On May 10, 2007, the Safety Commission concurred with staff to recommend that the City Council approve the temporary all-way stop installation at Lane Avenue and Mackenzie Creek Road as a permanent traffic control measure. The Safety Commission also directed staff to consider additional safety enhancements at this intersection to make it safer for pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and to report back to the Safety Commission with potential enhancements. Staff has compiled enhancement alternatives for this intersection and has included their findings for the Safety Commission's consideration.

**Staff Recommendation:** To install flashing beacons (solar powered) on the stop signs on Lane Avenue.

**Commission Discussion:** Commissioner Rosario had a question about roundabouts, and how people are

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feeling about them. He was amazed at how easy they were. Senior Civil Engineer Newton explained that they have received nothing but positive feedback. Initially, there were complaints, but once people got used to it and understood how it worked, they said they liked it. He would like to try some out on some of the City's more major roadways.

Commissioner Cochrane felt that the roundabout is an excellent solution to traffic calming, particularly in the budget climate we're in. Brick crosswalks and LED lights are also excellent options. Commissioner Cochrane supports the flashing light on top of the stop sign, because the more signs we post, the more chance of graffiti we're faced with.

Commissioner Lopez wanted to make mention that on the roundabouts, especially on Bird Rock, the fire department didn't take too kindly to them. They had to maneuver rather awkwardly, and Senior Civil Engineer Newton explained that the way they're designed, that to make a left, they're to go against traffic.

Commissioners Moriarty and Rosario asked, respectively, for a flashing beacon, and to further trim the tree that is blocking view of the street.

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**Public Hearing Opened.**

1. Kevin Hancock (Address could not be heard)
  - a. Talked about a great many things, in addition to the item currently being discussed. Officer Mullen asked him to please get in touch with him about his concerns.

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**Public Hearing Closed.**

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**MSC (Liken/Rosario)** to accept staff's recommendation to deny establishment of time-limited parking, and also to recommend wherever appropriate, to install a flashing beacon (6-0-1) Navarro absent.

**8. Report on Request for an All-Way Stop at the Intersection of Surrey Drive and Wagonwheel Way**

Brief presentation by Senior Civil Engineer Newton. Staff received a letter from Mr. Ruben Fontes, residing at 385 Wagonwheel Way, requesting the installation of an all-way stop at Surrey Drive and Wagonwheel Way. Mr. Fontes feels that this intersection is unsafe for motorists on Wagonwheel Way due to the limited sight distance of oncoming vehicles on Surrey Drive. Staff studied the intersection for a potential all-way stop installation and has prepared this report for the Safety Commission's consideration.

**Staff Recommendation:** That the Safety Commission concur with staff's recommendation to deny the installation of an all-way stop control at this intersection and consider the following traffic improvements:

- Installation of an "Intersection Ahead" sign combined with a "20 mph" advisory speed sign for westbound traffic on Surrey Drive east of Wagonwheel Way.
- Installation of a "Watch Downhill Speed" warning sign for eastbound traffic at the intersection of Surrey Drive and Wagonwheel Way.
- Trimming of existing trees located at the northeast corner of the intersection.
- Installation of a stop sign and legend on Wagonwheel Way.

**Commission Discussion:** Commissioner Cochrane asked if there wasn't a way to post a sign that said "Blind Intersection Ahead" and the distance from it. Senior Civil Engineer Newton said that that would be doable; to post the distance on existing signs, but "Watch for Blind Intersections" would be a custom order. His concern is also that if you get too much on a sign, you either have a really big sign, or a regular size one that no one reads because it's printed too small.

Chair Perrett asked if the flashing beacons can come in yellow, however, Commissioner Rosario was concerned that it might throw light into the windows of the nearby houses, causing a problem at night.

**Public hearing opened.**

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1. Charles Truit, 377 Wagonwheel Way
2. Glenda Heard, 351 Surrey

**Public hearing closed.**

Vice-Chair Liken asked about staff's thoughts on putting in bots dots, because if there were a concern about a flashing beacon disturbing homeowners nearby, he would think the noise of driving over the bots dots would be a similar issue. He was thinking about red curbing and maybe putting in some raised markers. Senior Civil Engineer Newton said that traffic engineers tend to be cautious about putting bots dots in on an uphill incline, and they simply would not put them in in such a situation.

**MSC (Perrett/Moriarty)** to accept staff's recommendation for:

- Installation of an "Intersection Ahead" sign combined with a "20 mph" advisory speed sign for westbound traffic on Surrey Drive east of Wagonwheel Way.
  - Installation of a "Watch Downhill Speed" warning sign for eastbound traffic at the intersection of Surrey Drive and Wagonwheel Way.
  - Trimming of existing trees located at the northeast corner of the intersection.
  - Installation of a stop sign and legend on Wagonwheel Way.
- (6-0-1) Navarro absent.

**9. Traffic Engineering CIP Project Update – August 2007**

Brief presentation by Senior Civil Engineer Newton.

**10. Traffic Accident Summary, June 2007**

Brief presentation by Officer Mullen.

**11. Action Summary Update**

- **May 10, 2007**
  - **Report on Trial All-Way Stop Installation at the Intersection of Lane Avenue and MacKenzie Creek Road:** The Commission concurred with staff's recommendation for the City Council to approve the all-way stop control at this location as a permanent measure. Resolution 2007-163 making this all-way stop control a permanent traffic device was approved by the City Council on July 10, 2007.
- **April 12, 2007**
  - **Two hour Time-Limited Parking along the 500 block of Vance Street:** The Commission concurred with staff's recommended establishment of two-hour time-limited parking zone along Vance Street. The City Council has adopted the ordinance for this time-limited parking zone on June 5, 2007. All signs have been installed as of June 2007.
- **March 8, 2007**
  - **Davidson Street/Landis Avenue All-Way Stop Control:** The Commission concurred with staff's recommended installation of an all-way stop control and painting of crosswalks. The installation of the all-way stop control and painting of cross-walks on all four legs of this intersection has been completed.
- **February 8, 2007**
  - **25 MPH speed limit sign installations on Old Janal Ranch Road between Olympic Vista Road and Rambling Vista Road.**
  - **Striping Modifications on Olympic Vista Road to gain additional on-street parking.**
    - The Commission concurred with staff's recommended installation of 25 MPH speed

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limit signs on Old Janal Ranch Road, and striping modification on Olympic Vista Road. Both the Olympic Parkway speed limit signs/legends installation and the striping modifications work on Olympic Vista Road have been completed as of May 2007.

- **November 9, 2006**

- **Speed Limit establishment on First Avenue south of Palomar Street:** The Commission concurred with staff's recommended 25 MPH speed limit, and an Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on February 20, 2007. Speed limit signs have been installed.
- **Time-limited parking on Lazo Court:** The Commission concurred with staff's recommended 4-hour time-limited parking, in addition to "No Overnight Parking" signs. All signs and posts have been installed by the Public Works crew in May of 2007.

- **September 19, 2006 (City Council)**

- **Lane Avenue/MacKenzie Creek Road Truck Route & All-Way Stop Control:** The Commission concurred with staff's recommended all-way stop control as a temporary measure to observe effectiveness, and the all-way stop was installed on September 22, 2006. A staff report has been prepared with staff's recommendation regarding this all-way stop control intersection for Safety Commission review (May 10, 2007 meeting).

- **August 10, 2006**

- **First Avenue/Kearney Street All-Way Stop Control:** The Commission denied the all-way stop and advised staff to work with the church to pursue the lease or purchase of the property to provide a second driveway for the school and install crosswalk, warning signs, and school to provide a safety patrol and school to pay for possible CMS signs. Staff will prepare an action item report to the City Council. City's right of way agent will contact the School/Church to pursue the leasing/purchase of the right of way needed to construct a second driveway for St. John's School. A letter to the Dean of School is being prepared to touch base in regards to school pedestrian safety at the intersection of First Avenue and Kearney Street.

## **12. Potential Upcoming Safety Commission Agenda Items**

- Proposed all-way stop control at the intersection of Oleander Avenue and Tamarack Court: A letter by a resident living near this intersection states that she has witnessed numerous near collisions and that sometimes it is difficult for her to back out of her driveway because of speeding on Oleander Avenue, and, therefore, she is requesting an all-way stop control at this intersection.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

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## **13. Commissioner Comments**

City staff attempted to conduct elections for Chair and Vice-Chair for FY 2007-2008. Unfortunately, City staff did not include the Election on the agenda, and with the requirement to post items 72 hours in advance; it could not be held. Will be held during the September 2007 meeting.

Commissioner Cochrane commented that high school students really need to be educated about how to cross the street. Commissioner Rosario felt that it was a valid point, but that until technology advances to the point where you can prevent improper crossing in some way, it's going to continue.

Commissioner Moriarty asked about the status of Rutgers, to which Senior Civil Engineer Newton said we are still in talks with the owner about acquiring this property.

The Commission asked for an update on the status of replacing Commissioner Lopez's commission slot. They have not had very many applicants, so Senior Civil Engineer Newton urged the Commissioners to ask around and see if anyone is interested in applying.

## **14. Staff Comments**

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None.

**ADJOURNMENT AT 7:36 P.M.** to the next regularly scheduled meeting of September 13, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Walters, Recording Secretary

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